



# **Spring Hill Fire Rescue & Emergency Medical Services District**

## **Ordinance 2009-01**

An Ordinance of the Spring Hill Fire Rescue & Emergency Medical Services District Adopting a Fire Prevention Code of the Spring Hill Fire Rescue & Emergency Medical Services District; Establishing the Division of Fire Prevention and Inspection; Establishing Rules and Regulations for Fire Prevention and Safety; Providing a Penalty for Failure to Comply with Said Regulations; and Providing for an Effective Date.

# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

## **PREAMBLE**

Section 01: Introduction

Section 02: Division of Fire Prevention and Inspection Established

Section 03: Duties and Responsibilities

## **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

Section 04: Title

Section 05: Definitions

Section 06: Recognition of Florida Fire Prevention Code

Section 07: Recognition of Building Code

Section 08: Recognition of the Hernando County Code

Section 09: Application

## **ADMINISTRATION**

Section 10: Authority

Section 11: Right of Entry; Implied Consent

Section 12: Approval of Plans and Installations

## **FIRE PREVENTION REGULATIONS**

Section 13: Reporting Hazardous Conditions; Maintaining Hazard

Section 14: Smoking

Section 15: Unnecessary/False Alarms and Service Fees

Section 16: Required Access for Fire Apparatus

Section 17: Key Box System

Section 18: Fire Department Emergency Keys for Elevators

Section 19: Storage on Roofs, Fire Escapes, Porches, Breezeways, Balconies and Dumpster Locations

Section 20: Festival Seating

Section 21: Marking of Occupancies for Emergency Use

Section 22: Fire Alarm Systems

Section 23: Fire Sprinkler Systems

Section 24: Standpipes Required

Section 25: Fire Protection Water Supply

Section 26: Carnivals / Festivals / Open Public Assemblies / Fire Works Public Display (s)

Section 27: Cease and Desist Order or Stop Work Order

Section 28: Code Conflicts

Section 29: Fuel Oil or Kerosene Burning Heating or Cooking Appliances Prohibited

Section 30: Planning & Zoning Recognition & Fee's

Section 31: Certificate of Occupancy

Section 32: Open Burning

Section 33: Fire Extinguishers

Section 34: Penalty

Section 35: Previous Rules, Regulations and Codes Repealed

Section 36: Severability

Section 37: Effective Date

## **INDEX**

# **PREAMBLE**

## **Section 01: Introduction**

An Ordinance to provide the Spring Hill Fire Rescue & Emergency Medical Services District, hereafter known as the “District”, with rules and regulations to improve public safety by promoting the control of fire hazards; regulating the installation, use and maintenance of fire safety equipment; regulating the use of structures, premises, and open areas; providing for the abatement of fire hazards; establishing the responsibilities and the procedures for code enforcement; and setting forth the standards for compliance and achievement of these objectives.

## **Section 02: Division of Fire Prevention and Inspection Established**

The Fire Chief shall designate a Fire Official as Fire Marshal. The Fire Marshal of Spring Hill Fire Rescue & Emergency Medical Services District shall be responsible for the enforcement of the Florida Fire Prevention Code and any modifications or Local Ordinances and Policies as voted on by the District Board of Fire Commissioners of Spring Hill. To assist in the performance of the responsibilities and duties placed upon the Fire Marshal of Spring Hill Fire Rescue & Emergency Medical Services District the Division of Fire Prevention, Inspection, Hydrants and Investigation is hereby established, to be under the control of the Assistant Fire Chief.

The Division of Fire Prevention, Inspection, Hydrants and Investigation (hereinafter referred to as the Division) within the District shall operate under the supervision of the Fire Marshal of the District. The Fire Marshal shall be responsible for the direct administration and enforcement of the District Fire Prevention Code. The Fire Marshal may designate such number of Fire Inspectors as shall from time to time be authorized by the Fire Chief of Spring Hill Fire Rescue & Emergency Medical Services District.

## **Section 03: Duties and Responsibilities**

It shall be the duty of the Fire Marshal and his/her designees to enforce all rules and regulations of the District.

A. These duties shall consist of, but not be limited to, the following:

- (1) The prevention of fires;
- (2) The storage and use of explosives and flammables;
- (3) The installation and maintenance of automatic and other fire alarm systems, and fire extinguishing equipment;
- (4) The maintenance and regulation of fire escapes;
- (5) The means and adequacy of exit in case of fire from buildings and all other places in which numbers of persons work, live, or congregate from time to time for any purpose;
- (6) Coordinate the investigation of the cause, origin, and circumstances of fires with the Florida State Fire Marshal’s Office, or any other law enforcement or insurance company;

- (7) Assist with or maintain (if needed) the maintenance of fire cause and loss records.
- B. It shall be the duty of the Fire Marshal of the Spring Hill Fire District to investigate and recommend to the Fire Chief, such additional rules and regulations or amendments to existing rules and regulations as he may deem necessary for safeguarding life and property against fire.
- C. The Fire Marshal shall prepare instructions for his/her assistants and forms for their use in the reports required by these rules and regulations.
- D. The Fire Marshal shall inspect or cause to be inspected all premises on a periodic basis, and shall make such orders as may be necessary for the enforcement of the laws and rules and regulations governing the same and for safeguarding of life and property from fire.
- E. The Fire Marshal and his/her designees shall have such other powers and perform such other duties as are set forth in other sections of this Code and as may be conferred and imposed from time to time by law.

# **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

## **Section 04: Title**

The title of this Code shall be the Fire Prevention Code of the Spring Hill Fire Rescue & Emergency Medical Services District, herein after referred to as the “Code”. One or more copies shall be on file in the Administrative Office (s) of the Spring Hill Fire & Emergency Medical Services District located at 3445 Bob Hartung Court, Florida 34606, and shall be kept available for public use, inspection, and examination.

## **Section 05: Definitions**

For the purpose of this Code the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning. The below listed definitions are in addition to the definitions found in Chapter 3, Section 3.2 of NFPA No. 1.

### **Approved Fire Hydrant**

An approved fire hydrant shall mean a fire hydrant connected to a Hernando County water main of not less than eight (8) inches in diameter and shall meet the performance standards as established in the Hernando County Utility Department Comprehensive Plan, and shall have one (1) 4 1/2 inch and two (2) 2 1/2 inch hose connections. All hydrant installations (public land) shall be approved by the Hernando County Utilities Department as pertains to availability of water pressure, volume and reliability of water service. All hydrants on private property shall be approved by the “District” and meet all the criteria of the HCUD Comprehensive Plan and NFPA 1142 Suburban and Rural Water Supplies.

**Authority Having Jurisdiction (A.H.J.):** The District through the Fire Chief or his/her designated State Certified Inspector (s).

**Building Code:** Defined as the Florida Building Code as identified in Florida Statute 553.73.

**Fire Code:** Defined as the Florida Fire Prevention Code (FFPC) as identified in Florida Statute 633 or (NFPA 1)

**Life Safety Code:** The National Fire Protection Association Code known as NFPA 101

**NFPA or NFIPA:** The National Fire Protection Association as referenced in the Florida Building or Fire Code. NFPA or NFIPA Standard No. (\_\_\_\_) or Code No. (\_\_\_\_) shall mean the referenced code or standard as compiled and published by the National Fire Protection Association. (Refer to Chapter 2 of NFPA 101 Florida edition, “definitions”).

**National Fire Code:** The compilation of the NFPA codes, standards, recommended practices and manuals published by the National Fire Protection Association and as adopted by the Spring Hill Fire Rescue & Emergency Medical Services District.

**Path of Egress:** As delineated by the life safety plan and/or as determined by the AHJ.

**Story:** That portion of a building included between the upper surface of a floor and the upper surface of the floor or roof next above. A parking area beneath a building is considered a story.

**Modified / Altered / Improved:** Any building located within the defined sections of the Spring Hill Fire Rescue & Emergency Services District which is altered, remodeled, modified, or improved as defined in the Florida State Building or Fire Codes, will be required to meet all requirements of these codes, and a permit shall be obtained from the Hernando County Building Department or its sub-division. Alterations shall also include any issue as defined in the Hernando County Code.

**Annual Inspections:** Annual inspections are defined as those inspections conducted at reasonable hours of the day, or night if required by State of Florida duly licensed (see Chapter 633 F.S.) Fire Inspectors

**Special Inspections:** Defined as those inspections made at the request of a Spring Hill citizen, Hernando County, State of Florida, other than annual inspections

**Unfriendly Fire:** Any fire that is determined to be unauthorized burning of any nature or a fire that is out of control or poses a potential threat to life or property.

**Unit:** A room or group of rooms within a multi-family structure designed for occupation by one family only.

#### **Section 06: Recognition of Florida Fire Prevention Code**

This Code recognizes the Florida Fire Prevention Code as adopted by the State of Florida pursuant to F.S. 633.0215. The same are hereby adopted and incorporated as fully as if set out at length herein. Not less than one copy of the adopted issue of NFPA 1, Fire Prevention Code of the National Fire Protection Association, and the adopted standards and codes of the National Fire Codes shall be filed in the office of the Spring Hill Fire Rescue & Emergency Medical Services District or (sic) the Division Offices and the provisions thereof shall be controlling within the limits of that district. Whenever the Florida Fire Prevention Code as referenced herein and this Fire Prevention Code address an identical issue, the more stringent fire protection provision as per code shall apply. Whenever the Florida Legislature or State Fire Marshall changes a statute or rule authorizing a different edition of the NFPA Codes, or New Legislation is enacted, the District shall adopt this in its entirety without a need for "Ordinance" change.

#### **Section 07: Recognition of Florida Building Code**

This Code recognizes and incorporates, as fully as if set out herein, the Florida Building Code as identified in Section 5. Whenever the Florida Building Code is referenced herein, and this Fire Prevention Code addresses an identical issue, the more stringent fire protection or code standard provision shall apply.

#### **Section 08: Recognition of the Hernando County Code**

This Code recognizes and incorporates, as fully as if set out at length herein, the Hernando County Code, as adopted and amended, by the Hernando County Board of Commissioners. Whenever the Hernando County Code and this Code address an identical issue, the more stringent fire protection provision shall apply.

## Section 09: Application

- A. The provisions of this Code shall apply to all buildings, structures, vehicles, marine vessels, Fire Protection Equipment, including but not limited to Fire Pumps, Fire Sprinklers, Fire Mains, other premises and conditions within this jurisdiction. The provisions of this Code shall apply equally to existing as well as new buildings (unless specifically noted in this or State Code). Existing structures, vehicles, marine vessels, premises and conditions not in strict compliance with this Code may be permitted pursuant to State Statute to continue unless, in the opinion of the Fire Marshal, they constitute a distinct fire hazard to life or property.
- B. The provisions of this Code do not apply to one or two-family dwellings in the normal use or maintenance thereof, except that this Code shall apply whenever the activity or use of such dwelling has been altered, changed or used for permitted commercial or special uses as defined by Florida Statute, or Hernando County Code, and thus creates a distinct fire hazard to life or property or is referenced by the Uniform Standards as referenced in Chapter 633 F.S.
- C. The provisions of this Code do not apply to those buildings or structures specifically under the Uniform Standards of the State, as set forth in Chapter 633 F.S. except as provided therein.
- D. The provisions of this Code shall be complied with whenever a building is built, or a building or an occupancy is altered or changed. Compliance with this code may be required when a new owner, renter or lessee assumes control of a building, unit or business or if there is a change in the occupancy classification. Only those requirements whose application would be clearly impractical in the judgment of the authority having jurisdiction shall be modified.
- E. Existing buildings that are occupied at the time of adoption of the Code may be continued in use provided:
  - (1) The occupancy remains the same, and,
  - (2) No serious life safety hazard exists that would constitute an imminent threat, and,
  - (3) The building was not previously under review for Code compliance, and / or,
  - (4) This is allowed under Florida Statutes.
- F. The provisions of this Code, as far as they are substantially the same as existing provisions of law relating to the same subject matter, shall be construed as restatements and continuations thereof and not as new enactment.
- G. The adoption of this Code or the repeal of any other existing provision of law, including regulations or orders, shall not be construed to alter any time limit which may have been imposed by any existing law, regulation or order of the Fire Marshal or other authority relating to compliance with such limits.
- H. If any provision of this Code is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, it shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions of this Code.

# **ADMINISTRATION**

## **Section 10: Authority**

- A. This Code shall be administered and enforced by the Fire Official designated by the governing authority of this jurisdiction as having this responsibility. For purposes of this Code, this Fire Official is called the Fire Marshal. He/She shall meet those qualifications as may be set forth by the jurisdiction and Chapter 633 as being necessary to effectively administer this Code.
- B. This act shall be deemed an exercise of the police powers of the Spring Hill Fire Rescue & Emergency Medical Services District for the preservation and protection of the public health, peace, safety, and welfare, and all the provisions of the Spring Hill Fire Rescue & Emergency Medical Services District Code shall be liberally construed for that purpose.

## **Section 11: Right of Entry; Implied Consent; Annual, County or State ordered Inspections**

- A. Any application for or acceptance of any permit requested or issued pursuant to this Code, constitutes agreement and consent by the person making the application or accepting the permit to allow the authority having jurisdiction to enter the premises at any reasonable time to conduct any inspection required by this section.
- B. The Fire Chief may detail fire department personnel for stand-by duties to those places of assembly or other locations where it is deemed necessary for fire safety reasons or where there is a likelihood of Code violations being prevalent which may create hazardous situations. Generally, this right would be exercised where large crowds are expected in places of assembly or during the visit of dignitaries. When necessary for fire department personnel and or fire apparatus to be assigned for such detail, the Fire District may assess reasonable fees.
- C. All properties within the defined boundaries of the Spring Hill Fire Rescue & Emergency Medical Services District shall be inspected once within a 12 to 18 month cycle. It is preferred that all commercial and those residential properties covered by This, County or State Codes be done on an annual basis.
- D. All inspected properties shall be given a two (2) week period to repair, or correct any deficiency found during this inspection. In the discretion of the licensed inspector, the client, resident or occupant needs more time, and has shown substantial compliance, and then an additional two (2) week period may be applied.
  - a) If the establishment has not met compliance at the completion of this second two week period, a fine of (xx) shall be applied for the 3<sup>rd</sup> inspection. All Inspection fees shall increase and be found as per the penalty Section 34.
  - b) If the establishment has not met compliance, or shown substantial compliance then an Order to Comply shall be issued, followed by a Summons as defined under Chapter 633 of the Florida Statutes.
- E. At various times, Hernando County Commercial Development department as required by Hernando County Code may require Certificate of Use, or Certificate of Occupancy, Change of

Use inspections with or without being in conjunction with an active permit. The District may charge based upon a reasonable rate, a fee for these inspections. (See Fee Schedules)

Penalty, see Section 34.

## **Section 12: Approval of Plans and Installations**

- A. The Fire Marshal or his/her designee shall examine the submitted plans for evidence of compliance with this Code. The Fire Marshal or his/her designee may require tests or other investigations to be conducted by an agency satisfactory to the jurisdiction when an appliance, device, equipment, or system intended for installation does not specifically meet the requirements of this Code. The tests or investigations shall be based on nationally accepted test standards or principals.
- B. A complete set of all plans, drawings, and specifications (including but not limited to site, building, alarm, sprinkler, standpipe, hood exhaust and suppression) shall be submitted to the Division. Failure to do so will result in the issuance of a Stop Work Order to be enforced until required material is provided.
- C. All fire alarms, sprinkler system, underground water mains, hood and extinguishing system drawings shall be submitted and approved prior to commencement of any work on each respective system. At no time will combustibles be on any building site before adequate water supplies are installed. Such system design criteria shall be included with full architectural plan submittal.
- D. Shop drawings shall be submitted and approved prior to installation.
- E. Sprinkler Systems for New Construction and Additions with Fifty (50) or More Sprinkler Heads:
  - (1) All plans and drawings for the installation of sprinkler systems on new or existing buildings with fifty (50) or more sprinkler heads shall be signed, dated and stamped by a registered professional engineer duly licensed in the State of Florida. Any specialized mechanical, electrical or plumbing document for any new or existing buildings, which includes medical gas, oxygen, steam, vacuum, toxic air, filtration, halon or fire detection and alarm system which costs more than \$5,000 shall be signed, dated and stamped by a registered professional engineer duly licensed in the State of Florida (Chapter 471, Florida Statutes).
- F. Any project which does not require a review by the Hernando County Commercial Department or any governmental agency of Hernando County shall require a project review by the District as required under Chapter 1 of the Florida Fire Prevention Code . Fees shall be applied as set forth in The Spring Hill Fire Rescue & Emergency Service fee ordinances.
- G. All Planning and Zoning Board review's as submitted by Hernando County to the District for review shall be subject to fees as outlined in the Fee Schedule Ordinance currently in effect

# **FIRE PREVENTION REGULATIONS**

## **Section 13: Reporting Hazardous Conditions; Maintaining Hazard**

- A. Any person, upon discovering evidence of spontaneous heating or other abnormal heating of any merchandise, commodity, cargo, shipment, or other material of any kind in any building, marine vessel, appliance, apparatus, tank, or open stack or pile, or any person, upon discovering or being appraised of any uncontrolled hazardous leak or hazardous material or combustible or flammable liquid spill, shall immediately notify the Fire Department via 911.
- B. No person shall knowingly maintain a fire hazard.

Penalty, see Section 34.

## **Section 14: Smoking**

Where conditions exist which make smoking a fire hazard on any premises, "No Smoking" signs shall be posted as directed by the Fire Marshal or his designee. "No Smoking" signs shall be of a color, size, lettering, and location approved by the Division. No person shall remove "No Smoking" signs or lights, or ignite or otherwise set a fire to or smoke any cigar, cigarette, pipe, tobacco, or other form of smoldering substance, nor hold, possess, throw, or deposit any lighted or smoldering substance in any place where occasion or action would constitute a fire or life hazard. The manager or person in charge of the premises shall be responsible for enforcing this regulation once ordered by the authority having jurisdiction.

Penalty, see Section 34.

## **Section 15: Unnecessary/False Alarms & Service Fees**

The purpose of this section shall be to regulate and control the malfunctioning, negligence, or unintentional act resulting in the unnecessary response of emergency vehicles. In the case of unnecessary/false alarms, the authority having jurisdiction shall cause an investigation to be made and keep a record of the number of unnecessary/false alarms in the respective occupancy file.

- A. Persons owning, managing or otherwise being in charge of the premises shall be responsible for regulating and controlling the use and maintenance of an automatic fire alarm system for those premises. The transmission of an excessive number of unnecessary/false alarms, as defined herein as the result of malfunctions, negligence or unintentional acts resulting in the unnecessary response of emergency vehicles shall constitute a violation of this Ordinance. The owner, manager or person in charge shall, after the performance of an investigation by the authority having jurisdiction as to the causes for each such unnecessary/false alarm be responsible for such violation and may be assessed a service fee pursuant to paragraph B of this section. An excessive number of unnecessary/false alarms for any premises within the District is defined as three (3) or more such unnecessary/false alarms within any given twelve (12) month period.

- B. In deciding what constitutes an unnecessary alarm a committee made up of the Assistant Chief, Fire Marshal, A District Chief, and the Captain responsible for the alarm shall convene or correspond via department e-mail and conduct an inquiry as to what caused the over abundance of alarms for the premises. A study shall include information as to time of day, response issues, key holders, weather at the time of the alarm (s) all shall be taken into consideration.
- C. For the first through third unnecessary/false alarm, inclusive, as set forth in Section 15 of this Code, occurring in any given twelve month period, a warning shall be issued in writing; for any alarm thereafter a class “A” fine shall be assessed. If in the evaluation of the alarm committee no attempt at compliance is attempted then, thereafter, all appropriate State Codes shall be applied.
- D. In the event an unnecessary/false alarm is the result of a fire system service company or fire alarm monitoring company failing to place a system in the test mode or otherwise insure the prevention of the dispatch of all fire alarm signals during maintenance, testing or for any other reason, the servicing or monitoring company may be assessed a fine of not less than \$100.00 per occurrence.
- E. All fines shall be paid by check or cash to the Spring Hill Fire District at the District headquarters.

**Section 16: Required Access for Fire Apparatus**

- A. All premises, including existing premises, that the Emergency Services may be called upon to protect in case of fire and that are not readily accessible from public roads shall be provided with suitable gates, access roads and fire lanes so that all buildings on the premises are accessible to fire apparatus. Also see NFPA 1-Chapter 18 for guidance.
  - (1) Fire and emergency access shall be provided to at least two (2) sides of all commercial, professional, industrial and multi-family occupancy buildings. This access shall comply with the following, unless otherwise approved by the A.H.J:
    - a.) Have an unobstructed width of twenty (20) feet.
    - b.) Have a minimum/maximum distance from the building to the closest curb line or edge, as required by Florida Statute.
    - c.) All fire and emergency access shall be constructed to meet the minimum city or county roadway standards.
    - d.) Emergency access shall be identified as to location with signage stating “Emergency Fire Access” or as required by the AHJ.
    - e.) Emergency access shall be kept unobstructed at all times and from any future growth, and shall be dedicated on the approved final site plan for the life of the building or complex.

**B. Traffic Calming Devices**

New speed bumps when installed, must comply with the following criteria:

- (1) Approved speed bumps shall have minimum twenty-four (24) inch long base with sloping falls, cresting at four (4) inch maximum height.
- (2) The location of such speed bumps shall be approved by the A.H.J. in conjunction and consultation with the Hernando County Engineering Department (Public Works Division)
- (3) Where the installation of speed bumps is determined by the authority having jurisdiction to impede or inhibit the response of emergency vehicles or the safety of emergency personnel or patients, such speed bumps shall be removed by the owner. Existing speed bumps may be modified to meet safety requirements as approved by the authority (s) having jurisdiction.

**D. Automatic Vehicle Access Control Gates**

- (1) Plans for each automatic gate system shall be submitted to the Division for review and approval prior to the initiation of any construction.
- (2) When in the fully open position, gates shall allow not less than fifteen (15) feet horizontal clear space including the roadway surface, as measured from inside curb to inside curb. A vertical clear space of not less than thirteen (13) feet six (6) inches shall also be required.
- (3) Each system shall have as a minimum for operation:
  - A. The gate shall have a siren activated switch
  - B. In the event of power outages, a battery back-up system shall cause the gate(s) to be open on the entry side of the complex to allow for emergency access (see item 2 above). The gate(s) shall remain in the fully open position until power is restored.
- (4) If the gate is to be used for emergency access only, signage shall be installed on both the interior and exterior of the gate indicated the gate is to be used for emergency access only and prohibiting parking.
- (5) In the event the gate becomes non-operational, the gate (s) shall be secured in the fully open position until such time as the minimum requirements as outlined above have been restored to a fully operational condition. (see fee's and penalties)
- (6) Where any vehicle access gate is installed which is used expressly for emergency access, the gate shall be set back from the roadway a distance sufficient to allow emergency vehicles using this gate to be fully off the roadway while opening a manual gate or allowing an automatic gate to open.
- (7) Cross arm bars used for entry control gates shall not be installed until such time as the operating features have been inspected, tested and approved.

**E. Fire Lanes**

1) Fire lanes, where required by the AHJ, shall meet the requirements NFPA 1. Where the Hernando County Code and NFPA 1 address identical issues, the more stringent fire protection feature shall apply.

2) It shall be a violation of the Florida Fire Prevention Code to park an un-attended vehicle in the designated fire lanes on any private or government property.

Penalty: Section 34.

### **Section 17: Key Box System**

- A. When a structure is equipped with a fire alarm system, sprinkler or standpipe system an approved key box shall be required. The tumbler shall match the Knox Box Fire Department key. The location of the key box shall be approved by the Division. Keys shall be provided to gain access to the Main doors, fire pump rooms, fire alarm panels, electrical room, sprinkler rooms and any other areas to which this Department may require access. Applications for the key box may be obtained from the Division. (see SOP Guidelines Admin 25-03). Tenants or owners shall be required to supply access keys to the structure.
- B. All change of use permits or where there is significant interior work may be required to have a Knox Box installed. Decisions on such installation shall be made at the time of permit.
- C. Installation height of key box shall be maximum of five foot 6 inches (5.5) feet or as approved by the authority having jurisdiction when this cannot be obtained.
- C. In the event manual gates are installed which would impede access to a building, or complex of buildings, the gate shall meet the minimum requirements for access and clearances as specified in Section 16.6.2 of this Code. (also see D)
- D. An approved pad lock keyed to the Knox Box district key shall be provided in order to facilitate access to the building or complex.

Penalty, see Section 34.

### **Section 18: Fire Department Emergency Keys for Elevators**

- A. Fire Department Emergency Elevator Call and emergency keys for these elevators are required to meet the requirements of the State of Florida. Spring Hill Fire Rescue is located in Hernando County. The State Fire Marshal has placed Hernando County in ZONE 4 for the required "SPECIFIC" elevator key.
- B. The owner of the structure where the elevator is being installed, remodeled, upgraded or otherwise changed "shall" provide a Zone 4 elevator emergency key to be included in the Knox box for fire department use.

### **Section 19: Storage on Roofs, Fire Escapes, Porches, Breezeways, Balconies & Dumpster Locations**

- A. No person shall place or maintain, on any roof or balcony used for egress purposes, any material or objects which may interfere with egress or Fire Department operations.

- B. No person shall place or maintain gas or propane cylinders on porches, breezeways or balconies of multistory buildings. This includes gas fired grills, charcoal grills, hibachi's used for cooking, heating or other purposes (NFPA 1, FFPC)
- C. Dumpster Location

All dumpsters and any associated screening consisting of combustible fencing around the dumpster pad shall have a minimum separation from the nearest building or building overhang of ten (10) feet. Large commercial/industrial dumpsters, such as 20 or 40 yard containers, may require a larger separation. This minimum separation may be reduced or waived if the dumpster is protected by one or more fire sprinkler heads of a fire sprinkler system designed in accordance with sound engineering practices. Compactor dumpsters, because of their unique design and construction requirements, shall be reviewed on an individual basis by the Fire Marshal.

For the purposes of this Code, any bulk combustibles shall be treated the same as dumpsters with regards to the minimum separation requirements.

Penalty, see Section 34.

### **Section 20: Festival Seating**

Festival seating as defined in Life Safety Code shall be prohibited in any building.

Penalty, see Section 34.

### **Section 21: Marking of Occupancies for Emergency Use**

- 1) Addressing numbers shall comply with Section 742 of the Hernando County Code, as specified in Section 8 of this Code.
- 2) In addition, Spring Hill Fire District requires that all rear doors of "NEW" structures, change of use, or modified structures to have their address in 4 inch numbers also posted on the door.

Penalty, see Section 34.

### **Section 22: Fire Alarm System (s) & Smoke Detector Requirements**

- A. General Requirements

Approved fire alarm systems shall be installed in buildings as required by Fl. 633:

- (1) Basements or cellars with ceilings less than fifty-four (54) inches above grade, or having floor areas exceeding 2,500 square feet, or when used as lounges or nightclubs, regardless of size.
- (2) All required fire alarm systems shall be annunciated and monitored.

- (3) Fire alarm control panels or required remote annunciator shall be installed with six (6) feet of the primary entrance.
- (4) Within residential and condominium occupancies, each unit shall have a minimum of one (1) rate-of-rise heat detector. The rate-of-rise heat detector shall be tied into the building fire alarm system as required. Required internal smoke detectors shall not be tied into the building fire alarm system unless otherwise required. Smoke detectors shall alert the individual unit.
- (5) Required fire alarm systems shall have a sufficient number of sounding devices so that they will be audible in any normally habitable area. The audibility shall be determined by the authority having jurisdiction or code standard.
- (6) Horn/Strobe lights shall be installed on the exterior of each building for which a fire alarm system is required so as to be easily seen from the street and its location approved by the Fire Marshal. The light shall be either red or white in color.

B. Special Requirements

- (1) All local fire alarm & detection units, including single station smoke detectors in multiple dwellings, shall be checked by the owners (or representative) a minimum of once (1 time ) per year for correct operation or as required by State Statute.

**Section 23: Fire Sprinkler Systems Requirements**

A. General Requirements.

Approved fire sprinkler systems shall be installed in buildings as required by FFPC and as follows:

- (1) Basements or cellars with ceilings less than fifty-four (54) inches above grade, or having floor areas exceeding 2,500 square feet, or when used as lounges or nightclubs, regardless of size.
- B. Electric Fire Pumps that are required to insure adequate flow and pressure in the sprinkler system shall be connected to an emergency power system in accordance with NFPA 70.
- C. All sprinkler system installations shall be provided with an approved back flow preventer of the type or Style required by Hernando County Utilities Department. Such valve shall also be approved by the Fire Marshal of the Spring Hill Fire Rescue & Emergency Medical Services District. All fire line backflow preventers shall be located at either the front property line of the development parcel, easily visible and not obscured by landscaping or other site improvements, or in the case of commercial shopping centers and similar types of developments, at or along the access way at the rear of the building complex. Other locations or provisions will not be permitted unless a specific exception is issued in writing by the Fire Marshal.
- D. All sprinkler system installations shall be approved by the Fire Marshal of the Fire District and all sprinkler systems connections to the public water distribution facilities shall be approved by the Hernando County Utilities Department.

- E. All fire department connections shall be located on the private property side of the fire line backflow preventer unless a specific exception is issued in writing by the Fire Marshal. Such connection should be attached directly to the backflow preventer, and the project representative shall verify with the Fire Marshal whether a typical 2 1/2" Siamese connection with national threads or a 5" storz connection as approved will be required.
- F. Sprinkler Systems for New Construction and Additions with Fifty (50) or More Sprinkler Heads:
  - (1) All plans and drawings for the installation of sprinkler systems on new or existing buildings with fifty (50) or more sprinkler heads shall be signed, dated and stamped by a registered professional engineer duly licensed in the State of Florida. Any specialized mechanical, electrical or plumbing document for any new or existing buildings, which includes medical gas, oxygen, steam, vacuum, toxic air, filtration, halon or fire detection and alarm system which costs more than \$5,000 shall be signed, dated and stamped by a registered professional engineer duly licensed in the State of Florida (Chapter 471, Florida Statutes).

#### **Section 24: Standpipes Required**

- A. Buildings more than three stories in height or fifty feet or more in height and any other structures that in the opinion of the authority having jurisdiction are inaccessible to firefighting equipment, shall be equipped with standpipes and 2½ inch valved fire department hose connections at each floor level, of Type III installation in accordance with NFPA 14.
- B. All 2½ inch valved fire department hose connections with or without hoses, at the discretion of the authority having jurisdiction, shall be located in the exit access within ten (10) feet of the exit door. Valves without hoses shall be installed not less than three (3) feet or more than five (5) feet above the finished floor, as directed by the AHJ.
- C. Standpipes shall be provided as a survey with individual 2½ inch or five (5) inch storz fire department connections as required by the AHJ. These connections shall by-pass any fire pump.
- D. The water supply for standpipes shall meet the requirements of the NFPA for minimum acceptable flow and residual pressure.
- E. All electrically driven fire pumps or starter pumps required to insure adequate flow and pressure in the standpipe shall be connected to an emergency power system as described in NFPA 70.

#### **Section 25: Fire Protection Water Supply**

In all developments, the adequacy of fire protection services, water pressure, hydrant locations, fire lanes and maneuvering areas shall be subject to the approval of the Fire Marshal with the requirements set forth herein determined as minimum provisions.

- A. All fire hydrants shall be installed in accordance with the requirements of the Hernando County Utility Department.
- B. Fire hydrants shall be installed in all new developments which meet any of the following criteria:

- (1) All developments which require an extension of the water distribution system;
  - (2) All developments which require the submission of a preliminary site plan as set forth in the Hernando County Code;
  - (3) When, in the opinion of the authority having jurisdiction, access to or distance from public fire hydrants would hamper or impair firefighting operations.
- C. Except as specifically excepted, required fire hydrants shall be no more than eight hundred (800) feet apart and within four hundred (400) feet of the main entrance of all principal buildings in the development as measured from normal access routes (Residential); 500 foot separation for Commercial; and 300 foot for Industrial. All hydrants shall be in addition to any internal sprinkler or standpipe system serving the development and shall not be located on the "fire line" water main service beyond the point of service or connection, except as allowed by AHJ. Except for hydrants located within public street rights-of-way, all hydrants shall be located at least forty (40) feet from any building, except one story single family residential buildings.
- D. Hydrant location with respect to the fire department connection: Whenever a proposed development will be required to install one or more fire hydrants as a condition of approval, a fire hydrant shall still be located not more than fifty (50) feet from the fire department connection as measured by normal access routes. (Curb Feet)
- E. Existing buildings that are occupied at the time of adoption of the Code may be continued in use without additional fire protection water supply provided:
- (1) The occupancy classification remains the same, and
  - (2) No serious life safety hazard exists that would constitute an imminent threat.
  - (3) Only those requirements whose application would be clearly impractical in the judgment of the authority having jurisdiction shall be modified.

**Section 26: Carnivals / Festivals / Outside Public Assemblies / Fire Works Public Display (s)**

- A. All carnivals, festivals and special events where rides, sleeping trucks, gaming tents, electrical generator hook ups, cooking & cooking tents, firing of any pyrotechnic devices, including fire works, cannons or like matter shall require a Spring Hill Fire Prevention inspection and /or permit for operation.
- B. Any and all public fire works displays shall require a special permit from the Hernando County Board of County Commissioners and Spring Hill Fire Rescue. Upon application to SHFR, and producing the county permit authorization, the Spring Hill Fire Prevention Division shall meet with the applicant and using the National Fire Protection Association appropriate code for public fire works displays lay out all of the required setbacks, rules and regulations.
- C. Outside public assemblies where large amounts of people will be attending, including concerts, live music or entertainment, festivals and circuses which are occurring outside of a permanent building or structure, on public or private land will be required to obtain from Spring Hill Fire Rescue a permit for "Outside Public Assembly". Permit application shall include a site plan that at a minimum

gives the layout of the event, actual buildings on site, food and or beverage vendor locations (including types of vendors), seating, parking, emergency access, tents (may include a separate permit from the County), etc. An inspection of the site will be required prior to opening.

See Ordinance (s) for Fee schedule

### **Section 27: Cease and Desist Order or Stop Work Order**

- A. Whenever the violation of any provision of this Code presents an immediate danger to life, safety or property or when any new construction or existing building is occupied in whole or in part in violation of the provisions of this Code, or without obtaining the necessary State or County building permits, or when any fire, explosion, or other such disaster occurs and presents an immediate danger to life, or property, the authority having jurisdiction shall immediately post a Cease and Desist Order or a Stop Work Order on the premises and shall suspend any and/or all use of the building, marine vessel, structure, or premises until such time that the danger to life or property has been removed or correction of the violation(s) has been made.
  
- B. If it is determined by the authority having jurisdiction that a violation specified in this subsection exists, the authority having jurisdiction or his designee may issue and deliver to the person committing the violation an order to cease and desist from such violation, to correct any hazardous condition, to preclude occupancy of the affected building or structure, or to vacate the premises of the affected building or structure. Such violations are:
  - (1) Except as set forth in paragraph (2), a violation of any provision of this section, of any rule adopted pursuant thereto, of any applicable uniform fire safety standard adopted pursuant to s. 633.022 which is not adequately addressed by an alternative requirement adopted on a local level.
  - (2) A substantial violation of an applicable minimum fire safety standard adopted pursuant to s. 633.025 which is not reasonably addressed by any alternative requirement imposed at the local level, or an unreasonable interpretation of an applicable minimum fire safety standard, and which violation or interpretation clearly constitutes a danger to life safety.
  - (3) A building or structure which is in a dilapidated condition and as a result thereof creates a danger to life, safety, or property.
  - (4) A building or structure which contains explosive matter or flammable liquids or gases constituting a danger to life, safety, or property.
  
- C. If, during the conduct of a fire safety inspection authorized by FS. 633.081 and 633.085, it is determined that a violation described in this section exists which poses an immediate danger to the public health, safety, or welfare, the authority having jurisdiction may issue an order to vacate the building in question, which order shall be immediately effective and shall be an immediate final order. With respect to a facility under the jurisdiction of a district school board or community college board of trustees, the order to vacate shall be issued jointly by the district superintendent or college president and the authority having jurisdiction.

- (1) The authority having jurisdiction may seek an injunction in the Circuit Court of Hernando County to enforce an order issued pursuant to this subsection.

Penalty, see Section 34.

### **Section 28: Code Conflicts**

Where a difference of code applications exist between the building and fire prevention code, the Fire Marshal or his designee shall meet with the Hernando County Building Inspector or his designee to determine how the code shall be applied for the best level of fire and life safety. Whenever any person, firm or corporation is of the opinion that they have been aggrieved, pursuant to, Chapter 69A-60, of the Florida Fire Prevention Code, they may seek relief from such decision(s) as interpreted by the Fire Marshal or his/her designee as allowed under the Florida Fire Prevention Code

### **Section 29: Fuel Oil, Kerosene or Wood Burning Heating or Fuel Oil, Kerosene or Wood Burning Cooking Appliances Prohibited**

It shall be unlawful for any person to use, or operate within any building or structure located within the jurisdiction of Spring Hill Fire Rescue & Emergency Medical Services District:

- A. Any un-vented fuel oil or kerosene burning appliance, including those with a woven wick, designed for heating purposes; and
- B. Any fuel oil or kerosene burning wick type appliance designed for cooking purposes; provided however, that the portion of this section making it unlawful to possess such appliances shall not apply to the possession of such type of appliances by licensed retail dealers for display and sale to consumers residing outside the jurisdiction of the Spring Hill Fire District.
- C. Any charcoal, gas, or wood fired heaters, grills, barbecues on balconies, porches or breezeways of multi-unit, multi-story buildings. (NFPA 1, FFPC)
- D. Any other heat producing device or appliance which is determined by the Authority Having Jurisdiction to be unsafe due to its application or use.

Penalty: see Section 34.

### **Section 30: Planning & Zoning Recognition & Fee's**

By virtue of the need for Planning and Zoning regulations within Hernando County's Spring Hill Fire District, Spring Hill Fire Rescue & Emergency Services District recognizes the Hernando County Code which addresses these issues.

The Spring Hill Fire Prevention Division shall work with the Hernando County Planning and Zoning (P & Z) Commission (and department) in adopting, amending, the interpretation and the enforcing as it relates to the District, any and all P & Z codes.

The Spring Hill Fire Prevention Division may charge fee's as it relates to it's time use in these endeavors as allowed under the Florida Statutes, and its charter. (See Fee Schedules)

### **Section 31: Certificate of Occupancy**

No building shall be occupied in whole or in part without the approval of and the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy from the HC Building Department and inspected and signed off by a Spring Hill Fire Rescue and Emergency Medical Services Division of Fire Prevention Inspector (s).

Every Place of Public Assembly shall have a Posting of Maximum Occupancy. Each certificate shall be located in a conspicuous place, in full view of the Public.

A charge may be required for a Duplicate Certificates to be re-produced.

Penalty, see Section 34.

### **Section 32: Open Burning**

Open burning is prohibited in all areas of the jurisdiction of the Springhill Fire Rescue and Emergency Services District except as allowed under the Department of Forestry regulations and provisions, as well as the District Administrative Policy Admin.25-04

### **Section 33: Fire Extinguishers**

Fire Extinguishers shall be inspected and hung as per Florida State Statutes. In addition units must be inspected, certified, tagged and hung according to NFPA 10 requirements (633 F.S.)

### **Section 34: Penalty & Powers**

- A. SHFR does here-by adopt Chapter 162 of the Florida Statutes as provided under Chapter 633 (633.052) to allow those authorized by the Board of Fire Commissioners to use the procedures contained within the statute to implement and enforce all fire codes and local ordinances as required and allowed under Chapter 2009-261.
- B. By reference, SHFR does also here-by adopt Article III of the Codes of Hernando County, Florida dealing with Code Enforcement and all sections deemed applicable to the enforcement of all codes , standards and local ordinances as allowed under 2009-261.
- C. Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this Code or the National Fire Codes, as adopted by the Spring Hill Fire Rescue & Emergency Medical Services District and the State of Florida Division of the State Fire Marshal, for which another penalty is not provided, or shall fail to comply therewith; or shall violate or fail to comply with any order made thereunder; or shall build, in violation of any details, statement, specifications, or plans submitted or approved thereunder; or shall operate not in accordance with the provisions of any certificate, permit, or approval issued there under, and from which no appeal has been taken; or who shall fail to comply with such an order as affirmed or modified by the authority having jurisdiction or by a court of competent jurisdiction within the time fixed herein shall for each and every violation and non-compliance, respectively be punished by a fine as set by the State of Florida Fire Code of not more than \$500.00 a day per violation, or as allowed by Chapter 162 here-in adopted as allowed by statute, (also see section 162.09 Administrative Fines) with each day of the violation constituting a separate offense. (F.S. 633)

- D. Spring Hill Fire Rescue and Emergency Medical Services by virtue of Chapter 633.052 “Ordinances relating to Fire Safety: definitions; penalties.” —of the State of Florida Administrative code in section (2) states: a county or municipality that has created a code enforcement board or special magistrate pursuant to chapter 162 may enforce fire safety code violations as provided in Chapter 162; does here-by adopt by reference the use of the Hernando County Court System, and / or Special Magistrate as needed for the judicial arm of the enforcement of fire code violations of both State Fire Codes and Local Ordinances within the special district.
- E. Spring Hill Fire Rescue and Emergency Medical Services by virtue of Chapter 633.121 of which FS 633 is the referenced fire code of the Spring Hill Fire Rescue District, does here-by authorize agents or employees of the District, who are certified by the State of Florida Division of Insurance (State Fire Marshal) as Fire Safety Inspectors (633.081) within the district, and who by virtue of the requirements of the State of Florida have the powers to enforce the fire codes and issue summons’s pursuant to and in accordance with Chapter’s 633 and 162 of the Florida Administrative Code as authorized by the District to enforce both State Fire Codes and Local Ordinances as enacted and/or adopted within the Special District located within Hernando County, Florida.
- F. Spring Hill Fire Rescue and Emergency Medical Services by virtue of Chapter 2009-261, as enacted, has the right to lien a property for the failure to pay taxes, fines or other levies as imposed by the Board of Fire Commissioners (BOFC). By virtue of this law, the BOFC does here-by authorize the Special Master of Hernando County, Florida to effectively authorize a lien (for all costs associated) to any property owner found in violation of a fire code, statute, ordinance, rule or law based upon the violation (s) being found on said property, by which all costs associated with the “Order of the Special Master” shall be forwarded to the Clerk of the Court and or Hernando County Tax Collector, for inclusion on the subsequent tax bill associated with said property owner. Costs associated with the case include but are not limited to: Administrative fee’s and costs; Fines levied by the Court or Special Master; any other fee associated with the enforcement.
- G. By virtue of this ordinance, the Board of Fire Commissioners does here-by authorize its agents or employees to collect all fee’s / fines / administrative costs, levied by the Office of Fire Prevention up to 3 days prior to the actual court date. Any fines or fees must be paid at Fire Headquarters located at 3445 Bob Hartung Court, Spring Hill, Florida 34606 or as may be designated by the Board.
- H. The imposition of a penalty for any violation shall not excuse the violation nor shall the violation be permitted to continue. All persons shall be required to correct or remedy the violations or defects within a reasonable time and, when not otherwise specified, the application of the above penalty shall not be held to prevent the enforced removal of prohibited conditions.
- I. A fee / fine schedule shall be maintained in addition to this ordinance. (See Ordinance 2009-2 or its replacement. Said fee or fine schedule may be updated from time to time without the need to change this ordinance.

History: Section 34 Amended by resolution 2010-002; dated 04-14-10

### **Section 35: Previous Rules, Regulations and Codes Repealed**

All formal rules and regulations or parts thereof conflicting or inconsistent with the provisions of these rules and regulations or of the Code hereby adopted are hereby repealed.

**Section 36: Severability**

If any provision of this Code is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, it shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions of this Code.

**Section 37: Effective Date**

These rules and regulations shall take effect and be in force from and after its approval as required by law. Adopted during a Public Hearing of the Spring Hill Fire Rescue & Emergency Medical Services District on 10/28/09 .

Approved by a vote of 5 to 0 .

## INDEX

Application .....	7
Approval of Plans and Installations.....	9
Authority .....	8
Authority Having Jurisdiction .....	5
Automatic Vehicle Access Control Gates .....	12
Code Conflicts.....	19
Building Code.....	5
Division of Fire Prevention Inspection Established .....	3
Carnivals / Festivals / Outside Public Assemblies & Public Fire Works Displays.....	17
Cease and Desist or Stop Work Order .....	18
Certificate of Occupancy .....	20
Code Conflicts.....	19
Definitions .....	5
Dumpster Location.....	14
Duties & Responsibilities .....	3
Effective Date.....	22
Festival Seating .....	14
Fire Code.....	5
Fire Alarm System & Smoke Detector Requirements .....	14
Fire Department Emergency Keys for Elevators.....	13
Fire Lanes .....	12
Fire Extinguishers .....	20
Fire Protection Water Supply .....	16
Fire Sprinkler System Requirements.....	15
Fuel Oil, Kerosene or Wood Burning Heating or Cooking Appliance Prohibited .....	19
Introduction .....	3
Key Box System.....	13
Marking of Occupancies for Emergency Use.....	14
Modified / Altered / Improved.....	5
National Fire Code .....	5
NFPA or NFIPA.....	5
Open Burning.....	20
Path of Egress .....	5
Penalty .....	20
Planning & Zoning Recognition.....	19
Previous Rules, Regulations and Codes Repealed .....	21
Recognition of the Florida Fire Prevention Code .....	6
Recognition of the Florida Building Code .....	6
Recognition of the Hernando County Code.....	6
Reporting Hazardous Condition; Maintaining Hazard.....	10
Required Access Fire Apparatus .....	11
Right of Entry .....	8
Severability .....	22
Smoking.....	10
Standpipes Required .....	16
Storage - Balconies, Breezeways, Fire Escapes, Porches, Roofs.....	13
Story.....	5
Title .....	5
Traffic Calming Devices.....	11
Unfriendly Fire.....	5
Unit .....	6
Unnecessary/False Alarms and Service Fees.....	10

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